

Focus Area 16: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

Objective 16-11c targets the reduction in very preterm births (less than 32 completed weeks gestation) to a rate of 1.1 per 100 live births (1.1 percent).

A total of 8,352 very preterm live births were reported in 2000, at a rate of 1.6 percent based on data extracted from the Birth Statistical Master Files (Figure 16-11c, Table 16-11c). A total of 8,120 very preterm births were reported at a rate of 1.5 percent in 2001, 8,211 in 2002 at a rate of 1.6 percent, and 8,189 in 2003 at a rate of 1.5 percent. California's very preterm birth rates are higher than the HP2010 target of 1.1 percent, and this HP2010 objective has not yet been achieved.

Data by race-ethnicity show that the highest very preterm birth rates were found for African Americans/Blacks (3.4 percent in 2000, 3.3 in 2001, 3.2 in 2002, and 3.0 in 2003). The next highest rates were found for American Indians/Alaska Natives (2.0 percent in 2000 and 2001, 1.8 in 2002, and 2.1 in 2003), Native Hawaiians/Other Pacific Islanders (1.9 percent in 2000, 1.7 in 2001, 1.6 in 2002, and 2.0 in 2003), and the "Multirace" population (2.3 percent in 2000, 2.0 in 2001, 1.8 in 2002, and 1.7 in 2003). This HP2010 objective is not being achieved for any racial or ethnic group as of 2003.

Examined by age of the mother, very preterm birth rates were highest for those under 15 years (4.0 percent in 2000, 4.1 in 2001, 5.2 in 2002, and 2.4 in 2003), followed by those aged 15-19 years (2.2 percent in 2000, 2.0 in 2001, and 1.9 in 2002 and 2003). The HP2010 objective of 1.1 percent was not being achieved for any maternal age group as of 2003.

Very preterm birth rates for male infants were higher than those for female infants in each year during the 2000-2003 period. The HP2010 objective is not being achieved for either gender of infants as of 2003.

For more information on very preterm births in California, visit the Maternal and Child Health Branch Web site at:

<http://www.mch.dhs.ca.gov/>

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 16-11c please visit:

http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/16MICH.htm#_Toc494699661

and

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/od16.htm#riskfactors>

Figure 16-11c
Very Preterm Births (Under 32 Completed Weeks Gestation)
California, 2000-2003

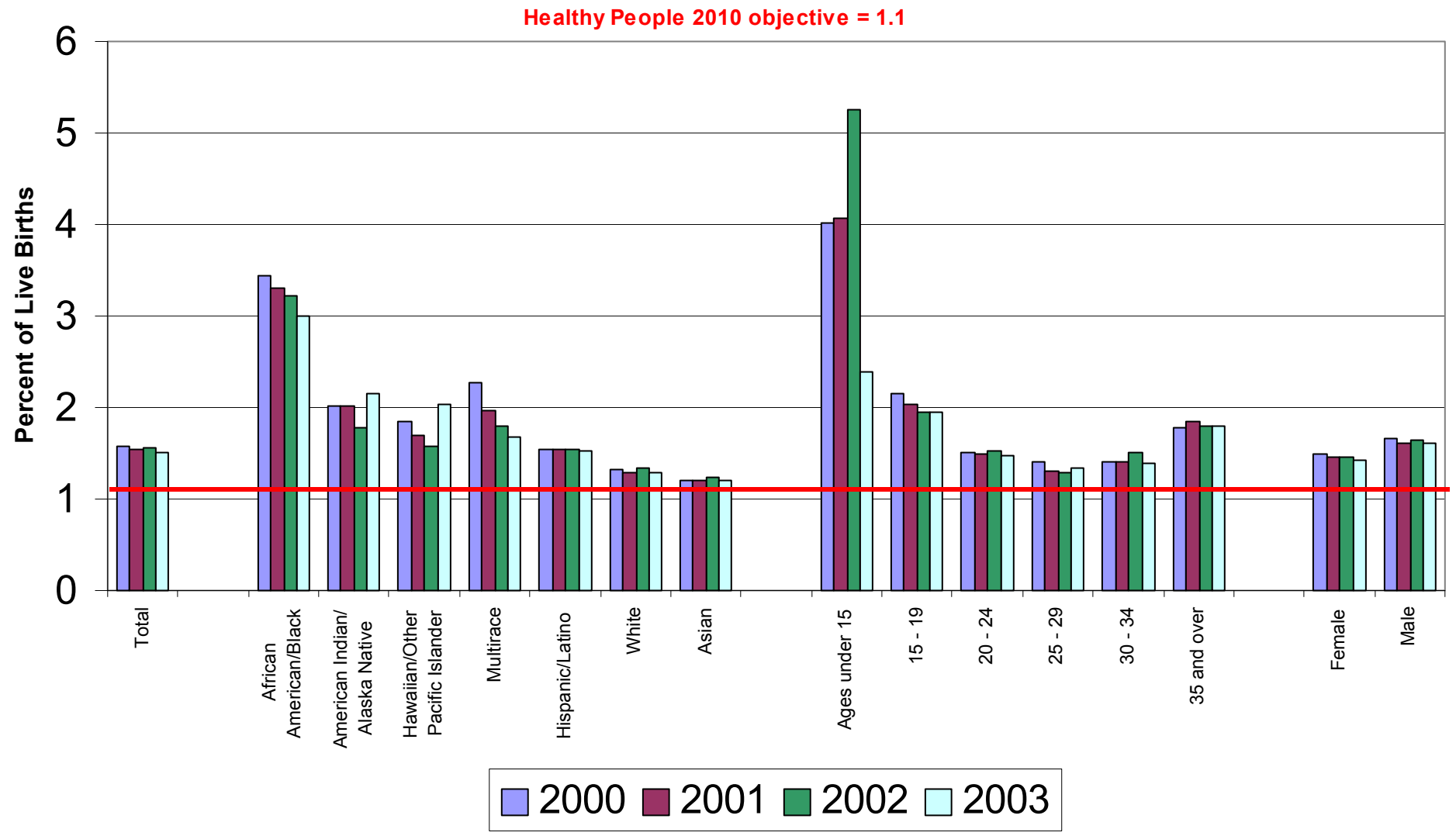


Table 16-11c
Very Preterm Births
California, 2000-2003

Very Preterm Births (< 32 weeks)			2000			2001				
	VPre Births ¹	Live Births ²	Rate ³	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.	VPre Births ¹	Live Births ²	Rate ³	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Target			1.1					1.1		
CALIFORNIA TOTAL	8,352	531,285	1.6	1.5	1.6	8,120	527,371	1.5	1.5	1.6
Race-Ethnicity of Mother										
African American/Black	1,113	32,302	3.4	3.2	3.6	1,022	30,965	3.3	3.1	3.5
American Indian/Alaska Native	40	1,975	2.0	1.4	2.6	40	1,986	2.0	1.4	2.6
Asian	713	58,876	1.2	1.1	1.3	688	57,443	1.2	1.1	1.3
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	44	2,376	1.9	1.3	2.4	40	2,355	1.7	1.2	2.2
Hispanic/Latino	3,989	257,958	1.5	1.5	1.6	4,018	260,996	1.5	1.5	1.6
White	2,228	168,233	1.3	1.3	1.4	2,106	163,777	1.3	1.2	1.3
Multirace	142	6,254	2.3	1.9	2.6	126	6,388	2.0	1.6	2.3
Maternal Age Group										
Under 15	36	895	4.0	2.7	5.3	33	810	4.1	2.7	5.4
15 - 19	1,194	55,373	2.2	2.0	2.3	1,073	52,966	2.0	1.9	2.1
20 - 24	1,851	122,591	1.5	1.4	1.6	1,833	123,227	1.5	1.4	1.6
25 - 29	1,959	139,615	1.4	1.3	1.5	1,790	136,439	1.3	1.3	1.4
30 - 34	1,801	127,502	1.4	1.3	1.5	1,807	127,946	1.4	1.3	1.5
35 and over	1,511	85,309	1.8	1.7	1.9	1,584	85,983	1.8	1.8	1.9
Sex of Child										
Female	3,845	259,217	1.5	1.4	1.5	3,776	258,121	1.5	1.4	1.5
Male	4,504	272,061	1.7	1.6	1.7	4,342	269,237	1.6	1.6	1.7

Table 16-11c, continued
Very Preterm Births
California, 2000-2003

Very Preterm Births (< 32 weeks)			2002			2003				
	VPre Births ¹	Live Births ²	Rate ³	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.	VPre Births ¹	Live Births ²	Rate ³	Lower C.I.	Upper C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Target			1.1					1.1		
CALIFORNIA TOTAL	8,211	529,241	1.6	1.5	1.6	8,189	540,827	1.5	1.5	1.6
Race-Ethnicity of Mother										
African American/Black	962	29,806	3.2	3.0	3.4	874	29,211	3.0	2.8	3.2
American Indian/Alaska Native	35	1,966	1.8	1.2	2.4	43	2,004	2.1	1.5	2.8
Asian	736	59,376	1.2	1.2	1.3	739	61,525	1.2	1.1	1.3
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	38	2,411	1.6	1.1	2.1	49	2,409	2.0	1.5	2.6
Hispanic/Latino	4,064	263,022	1.5	1.5	1.6	4,123	269,691	1.5	1.5	1.6
White	2,155	161,470	1.3	1.3	1.4	2,111	162,920	1.3	1.2	1.4
Multirace	122	6,813	1.8	1.5	2.1	119	7,112	1.7	1.4	2.0
Maternal Age Group										
Under 15	39	743	5.2	3.6	6.9	17	710	2.4	1.3	3.5
15 - 19	978	50,200	1.9	1.8	2.1	958	49,330	1.9	1.8	2.1
20 - 24	1,870	123,056	1.5	1.5	1.6	1,819	123,815	1.5	1.4	1.5
25 - 29	1,777	137,236	1.3	1.2	1.4	1,887	140,556	1.3	1.3	1.4
30 - 34	1,967	130,367	1.5	1.4	1.6	1,868	134,809	1.4	1.3	1.4
35 and over	1,580	87,639	1.8	1.7	1.9	1,640	91,607	1.8	1.7	1.9
Sex of Child										
Female	3,770	258,855	1.5	1.4	1.5	3,738	263,882	1.4	1.4	1.5
Male	4,438	270,378	1.6	1.6	1.7	4,446	276,933	1.6	1.6	1.7

SOURCE: California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, Birth Statistical Master Files, 2000-2003.

NOTES: ¹ Very preterm (VPre) births defined as live births of less than 32 completed weeks gestation (less than 224 days); records with missing gestational age and with gestational ages of 118 days or less are excluded.

² Live births among California residents; excludes fetal deaths,

³ Rate per 100 live births (percent).